JAMES MORONI AND SARAH JEAN McFARLAND CASPER

James Moroni Casper was born February 28, 1853, in Mill Creek, Salt Lake County, Utah. He was a son of early converts to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, William Wallace Casper and Sarah Ann Bean Casper. Their married life commenced with the saints at Nauvoo. Here they shared in the trials and persecutions

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which finally forced them to flee from Nauvoo. William Wallace Casper played an important part in the camp life experienced along the trail at Mount Pisgah and Council Bluffs. At Council Bluffs William Wallace was mustered into the Mormon Battalion for military service in Mexico. On 16 October, 1847, the soldier husband came riding into Salt Lake Valley, bearing the title of Major which he had won with honor. Here he found his wife and a joyous reunion took place nearly a year after the sad departure on the banks of the Missouri. Later William Wallace was called by Brigham Young to help colonize the region around Santa Clara or the "Muddy" as it was sometimes called. James Moroni, his son, who was fourteen years old was left to take care of the farm in Mill Creek while his father fulfilled his mission call. As a young man, James Moroni, hauled granite for the construction of the Salt Lake LDS Temple and lumber for the construction of the LDS tabernacle organ. He married Sarah Jean McFarland February 15, 1875, in the Salt Lake Endowment House.

Sarah Jean McFarland was the daughter of James McFarland and Sarah Mitchell, converts from Paisley, Scotland. They came to Utah in 1860, sailing on the "John Bright" and crossing the plains in the Joseph S. Rawlins ox-team company. Sarah Jean was eleven years old and walked all the way, arriving in Salt Lake City, October 1, 1866. She was born January 26, 1855, in Irvin Airshire, Scotland. Their children were: James Moroni, Jr., born June 30, 1876, m. Margret Price, died; William Jedediah born January 30, 1878, m. Mary Murdock; Cashus Roy, born October 20, 1880, died; Arlington Nephi born November 30, 1882, died; Mary born December 26, 1884; Henry Mitchell born September 29, 1886; George Ether born October 5, 1888, died; Sarah Margaret born

September 15, 1889, m. George Carroll; Minerva Jane born November 1, 1891, m. Alonzo Marchant, died; Erma Ethewin born April 11, 1894, m. Arthur Gunderson, died; Nellie born June 5, 1897, m. Andrew Besendorfer; Nancy Ann born November 8, 1899 m. Noah Besendorfer.

James Moroni and Sarah Jean moved to Wasatch County May 1, 1889 and settled in Charleston, where they lived until October 1, 1927, when they moved to Heber.

James Moroni Casper was well known as a rancher and served as watermaster for many years and as a school trustee.

Sarah Jean was a devout member of the church serving in Relief Society and at the time of her death being an honorary member of that organization. She died March 31, 1940 at the age of eighty-five.

Death claimed James Moroni on August 22, 1948, at the age of ninety-five, Wasatch County's oldest resident.